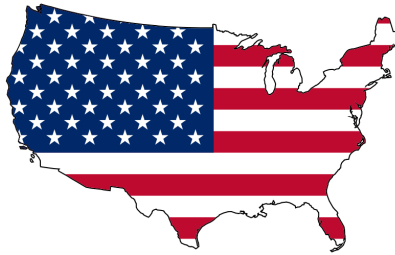


United States Embassy Macedonia

Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



Global articles for your interest
Issue 22
December 3 - December 17, 2010

Contents:

1. Holbrooke Remembered as Diplomat and Statesman

Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, who died December 13, is being remembered as a consummate diplomat, statesman and troubleshooter for the United States for nearly 50 years, from the war in Vietnam to conflict in the Balkans and finally as special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. ...

2. COP-16 Renews Hope for Global Climate Treaty

Nobody expected much success during the 2010 international climate negotiations, so when progress was made, almost everybody cheered. More than 90 countries signed an agreement to continue to implement greenhouse gas reduction measures and help developing nations address climate change. ...

3. United States Marks Human Rights Day

“While every nation pursues a path rooted in the culture of its own citizens, certain rights belong to all people,” President Obama says on International Human Rights Day. “Freedom, justice, and peace for the world must begin with basic security and liberty in the lives of individual human beings.”...

4. For Three Weeks, Journalists Explore the Country and Their Craft

A State Department program gives 150 rising stars in journalism from around the world three weeks in America to see what they can learn about their craft, press freedom and the complexities of the United States. ...

5. Clinton Remarks to Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants

Secretary of State Clinton speaks to the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants in Washington....

6. US Supports UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples

President Obama announces U.S. support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples during a White House Tribal Nations Conference in Washington on December 16. ...

In case you missed it:

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Youtube channel](#) 



Ambassador (right) and Mrs. Reeker (left) with Macedonian Minister of Defense Zoran Konjanovski (left) and Mrs. Konjanovska (right). (LP)

[Ambassador Reeker Hosts Returning 79 Macedonian Soldiers and Spouses](#)

December 16, 2010

Ambassador and Mrs. Reeker hosted a reception on December 16 in honor of the 79 returning members of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia who served with soldiers from the Vermont National Guard under ISAF Regional Command East in Afghanistan. Together with Minister of Defense Zoran Konjanovski, the Ambassador thanked the brave soldier for their service and partnership with their American counterparts, and welcomed them home. Ambassador Reeker paid special tribute to the spouses of the military men. "For every soldier deployed, there is a parent worried about their son, a wife missing her husband, and child wanting his father. For that reason, I also want to recognize and thank the family members of these 79 brave men. Without your love, dedication and unfailing support, the mission of these soldiers would be that much more difficult. "

- To see the full text of Ambassador Reeker's Remarks, please [click here](#).



Ambassador Reeker speaks to the audience of the "Business Office Administration" seminar. (LP)

[Building Leadership with Future Business Leaders](#)

December 15, 2010

Ambassador Reeker led a seminar for the "Business Office Administration" course organized by "Motiva" Management Education and Training Center in cooperation with "Pivara" Skopje on Wednesday, December 15. The Ambassador spoke to a set of leadership tenets he learned from former Secretary Colin Powell and led a dynamic discussion with the audience of over 100 students and young professionals. The Ambassador focused on fundamental leadership concepts, noting that "leadership is the art of accomplishing more than the science of management says is possible."



Ambassador Reeker and Dutch Ambassador Simone Filippini unveil the New Amsterdam/New York 400 poster. (LP)

New Amsterdam/New York 400: Two Nations, One Spirit

December 7, 2010

Ambassador Philip Reeker and Dutch Ambassador Simone Filippini opened an exhibit of posters on diversity, urban dynamism and the cultural ties between the two countries on Tuesday, December 7 at the Cultural information Center (KIC) in Skopje. Students from local high schools joined the Ambassadors before the opening for an open discussion of issues of tolerance, transparency and social diversity. As Ambassador Reeker noted, “the ideas that our cultures and our countries share and that tie us together are an appreciation of inclusive values – tolerance, openness, the benefit of trade and open markets and respect and appreciation for cultural differences. And I think that is the key: To focus on what we share and have in common instead of looking for differences.” The exhibit will be open at KIC through December 10.

◇ **To see more photos from the event please [click here](#).**

◇ **To see a short Embassy video product from this event, please [click here](#).**



Ambassador Reeker speaks at the lead panel for the OSCE Conference on the Decentralization Process in Macedonia. (LP)

Discussing the Efficiency and Transparency of the Decentralization Process in Macedonia

December 6, 2010

Ambassador Reeker: “The process of decentralization remains vital for the strengthening of the democratic processes and key to furthering the economic development of the Republic of Macedonia. This is the less glamorous side of democracy in any country: Municipalities providing roads, services, and good, safe schools for our children”.

- To see the full text of Ambassador Reeker’s Remarks, please [click here](#).



Ambassador Reeker welcomes the 79 returning Macedonian soldiers from their successful deployment in support of NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan. (LP)

Recognizing the Achievements of the Macedonian Army

SKOPJE, Macedonia, Dec. 2, 2010: - Ambassador Reeker joined the Minister of Defense Zoran Konjanovski, the Chief of Defense, Lieutenant General Miroslav Stojanovski, and Lieutenant Colonel David Kaiser, representing the Vermont Adjutant General, yesterday at the Army's Ilinden Barracks to officially welcome home the 79 soldiers who have successfully completed the first ever 9-month combined deployment in Afghanistan. These Macedonian troops worked with fellow soldiers from the United States' Vermont National

Guard in support of NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Since March of this year, this group of 79 has served shoulder to shoulder with the soldiers of the Vermont National Guard, engaging in the full spectrum of challenging military undertakings. The returning soldiers were among the overall military contingent of 242 supporting ISAF operations.

The Ambassador and other dignitaries praised the returning soldiers for their professionalism and commitment to creating a safer and more secure environment for the people of Afghanistan. They also applauded the unwavering support of the soldiers' families, a critical component to this and every successful deployment. Ambassador Reeker, on behalf of President Obama, noted how proud the United States is of our Macedonian allies and expressed our deep appreciation for their sacrifices in establishing broader global security.

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